



Allandale Neighbor

October 2019
Vol 34, Issue 5

Distributed to more than 4,500 homes by the Allandale Neighborhood Association

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Gullett
Carnival
November 2
12 - 3:00 p.m.**

see page 15 for more details

Poll Results

Kevin Smith, ANA President

I am pleased to present the results of our neighborhood poll, "What is your opinion of Allandale's future." It is my hope that by reaching out to the entire neighborhood, the ANA will be able to better understand where the entire

neighborhood stands on a wide variety of issues. It is my hope that, moving forward, we can use this data in conjunction with the input we receive at meetings to help better guide our positions and policies. I truly thank the approximately 350 neighbors who took the time to let us know their opinions on Allandale's future; without your input, this would

not have been possible. The Planning and Zoning Committee, chaired by Todd Shaw, was instrumental in designing the poll and reviewing its results.

As a high-level overview: Overall, we like the character of our neighborhood and the deed restrictions that helped it become that way. However, there is wide

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Swimming Pool Replacement: Part 2, the Process

Steve Johnson

The first article in this three-part series discussed what it means for a pool to fail. Only after a pool fails will the city start the process of replacing the pool. This part of the series discusses the process of replacing a pool. The last part of the series will discuss the process of building a new pool.

After a pool has failed, the replacement process is basically the following:

1. Determine availability of funds.
2. Apply the pool template from the

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An Allandale Treasure Moves On

Laura Beck

When I arrived at Gullett as a parent of a kinder kiddos in 2010, I quickly came to know a woman who seemed to be everywhere, doing everything for the school. Laura DiCarlo was

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Recycle!

Dena Houston

I have been a City of Austin Recycling Block Leader for my neighborhood for 27 years and work with the City and various recycling organizations to stay informed on the latest recycling informa-

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The Allandale Neighbor
is published bimonthly by the
Allandale Neighborhood Association (ANA)

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DESIGN Cathy Savage
PRINTER Worley Printing

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR
ADVERTISERS AND
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

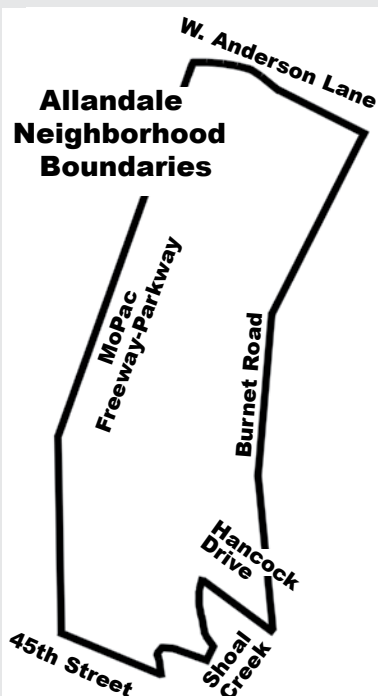
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ANA Executive Committee meetings are held on the
first Wednesday of the month at NW Rec Center.
General Membership meetings are held in March and
September.

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President's Letter

Kevin Smith, ANA President, 512-791-6064, Allandale.neighborhood@gmail.com

As our term on the Allandale Neighborhood Association's (ANA) Board of Directors draws to a close, I reflect on what we have accomplished and realize that none of it would have been possible without the vast array of passion, expertise, dedication and teamwork that was exhibited over the past year.

This year, ANA amassed a wide range of accomplishments, from completing our first public outreach campaign in quite a while (the neighborhood-wide survey), to gearing up to fully understand the impacts of the proposed new land development code. We have been busy striving to help keep Allandale the best neighborhood in Austin. Speaking of the proposed new land development code, it was released on October 4, 2019, and will

have a lasting impact on the composition of our neighborhood for decades to come. Please keep up to date on ANA's activities by checking our webpage at <https://allandaleneighbor.com>.

Last but not at all least, I must recognize Laura DiCarlo! She has been the heart and soul (as well as the Chair) of our Safety Committee for the last 11+ years. Although she is stepping down to pursue other very worthwhile causes, I cannot imagine our neighborhood association without her. Laura, I wish you the best in your new endeavor and there is no doubt to me that you will become as integral to them as you were to us.

Until we meet again,
Kevin



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An Allandale Treasure Moves On

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a force, sometimes even a force wearing a Gecko costume. I then learned that same force at Gullett was somehow able to find time to dedicate herself to Allandale, too. So when, in 2014, my tireless, selfless friend and neighbor asked me to be part of the ANA Executive Committee, there was no way I could say no. You have Laura DiCarlo to thank -- or blame -- for your newsletter editor!

And now after 11 official years working for our neighborhood on all things safety, Laura DiCarlo is moving on. Fortunately for me, her new job is at Brentwood Elementary School, so I will still get to see my friend. And though she will not officially be volunteering for the neighborhood, her love of Allandale and active presence here will no doubt continue.

I could gush on, but I thought perhaps a few words from others who have been active in Allandale might be a nice way for Laura to know deeply just how much she means to us all.

"Laura DiCarlo has served Allandale longer than any ANA board member. She came on as a volunteer one of the early years when I was on the board, bringing expertise, enthusiasm and energy abound. How she did it with a family and her busy schedule, I'll never know! And she kept on top of all of the problems in our very large neighborhood. Not only did Laura serve our neighborhood, but she has the respect of APD and anybody that she comes in contact with. That she will be missed is an understatement!!"

--- Donna Beth McCormick

"Laura has been continually active so long that I don't remember when she started. When I started running the July 4 parade, she was our link into the resources of the school -- access to bathrooms, etc. She was around when Gully the cat was trapped in the PTA storage locker for six weeks, but came out alive. We worked on school playground equipment. When you know the janitors, lots of things get easier; she knew 'everybody.' Laura was a reliable adult-in-the-room. She was active in so many aspects of the neighborhood, but always thought through things before she acted. Brentwood

is lucky. Austin and Allandale are lucky."

---Joseph Reynolds

"Laura has been a leader for the neighborhood, including keeping abreast of activities that have to be shared, maintaining great relationships with our community police officers and leaders, and creating programs that make neighborly safe spaces with community engagement, like Bike to School, graffiti abatement, and encouraging more National Night Out events across Allandale. Her constant work of promoting neighborhood safety has dovetailed with the realization that the best safety comes when neighbors engage each other first. We will miss her dearly as Safety Chair, and hope sees the benefits of her years of service to Allandale! Thanks, Laura!!"

--- Joi Chevalier

"Laura was the Rock of Gibraltar -- the person every organization needs to get their work done and move forward. Safety is a thankless task if it is done well. Laura made sure we were all informed about what was happening around Allandale."

--- Caroline Reynolds ☿





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Poll Results

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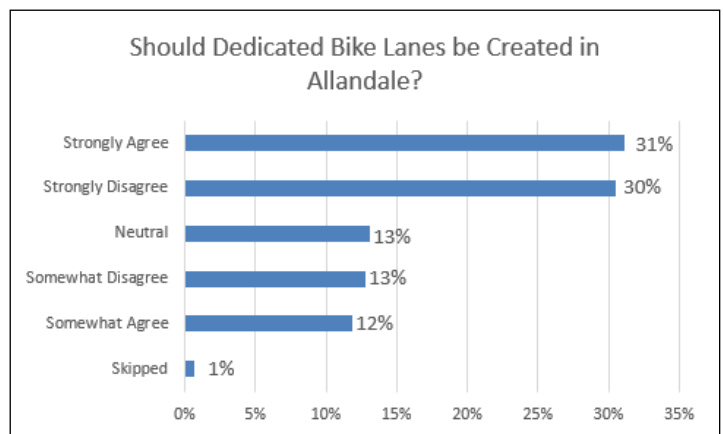
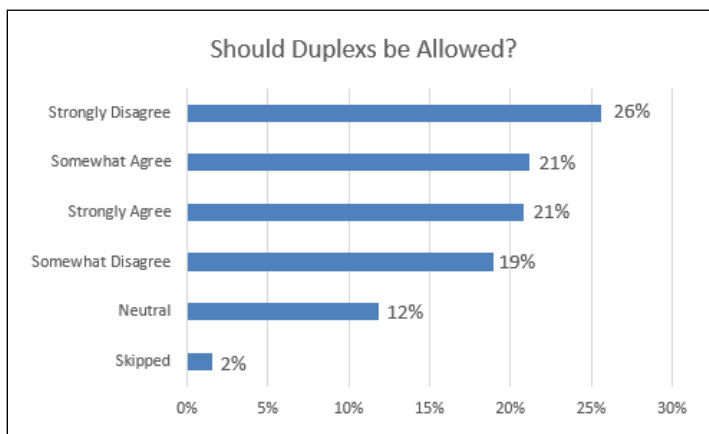
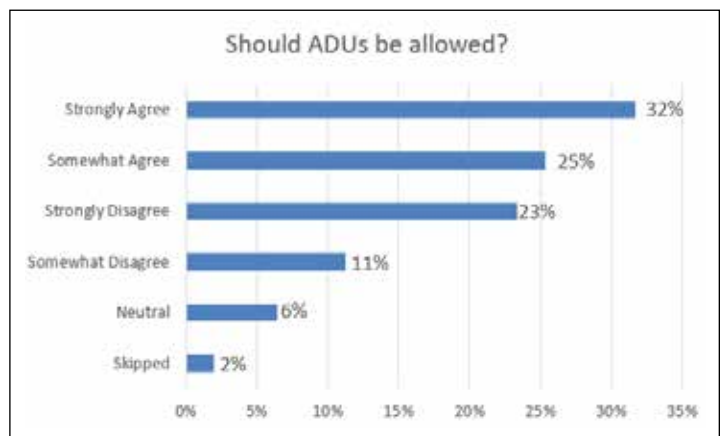
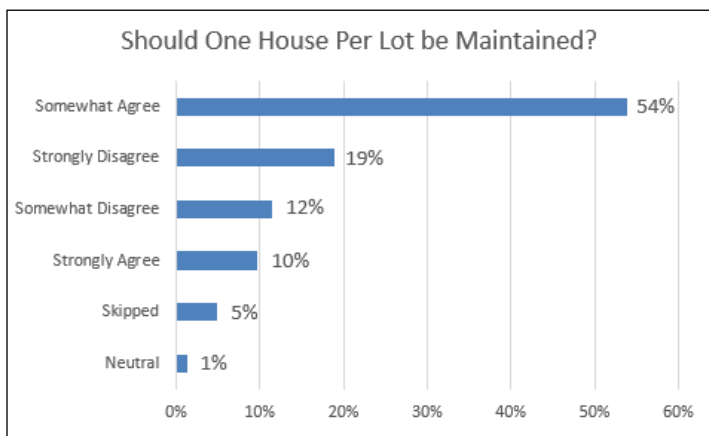
support to see a greater mix of housing options in the neighborhood. Where commercial encroachment is happening, we believe in upholding commercial compatibility standards (how high a building can be and where on the lot the building can be built) and the associated parking minimums. If spillover parking from those commercial establishments becomes a burden for the adjacent neighbors, we support the creation of Residen-

tial Permit Parking areas. Lastly, when redevelopment does occur, we believe that it should be done in accordance with current building code criteria. Finally, the neighborhood is evenly split, 43% both for and against the creation of dedicated bike lanes in the neighborhood.

Below is a limited selection of questions and results from the poll. At first glance, I realize that some of the results might seem to contradict themselves.

However, I believe that it shows we are willing to support different options in different situations. This flexibility is one of the many reasons we live in such a wonderful neighborhood.

For a complete list of the graphs and an interactive map showing polling results by block range, please visit our website at <https://allandaleneighbor.com>. ☼



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Swimming Pool Replacement: Part 2, the Process

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Austin Aquatic Master Plan, ratified by the City Council in February, 2018.

3. Develop design plans for the facility and submit for a site development plan permit.
4. Conduct public engagement in neighborhoods served by the pool, in coordination with the development of the design.
5. City Council approves site development plan and cost.
6. Demolish the old site.
7. Reconstruct the new pool.

The entire process takes at least two to three years. Factors that can protract the time period include hazardous material abatement (such as asbestos or lead), groundwater, or rain during the construction process.

Funding

Money is the key factor in replacing a pool. The city now has \$40 million in bond money from the November 2018 election

to spend on pools. The bond had two named projects, Colony Park (new pool, \$13 million) and Givens (replacement, \$6 million). These named projects have funds pre-allocated for them, meaning the city commits to spending that money on those pools. That leaves about \$20 million for swimming pool repair and replacement for the next five years or so, depending on when the next bond election is held.

Template

The template specified by the Austin Aquatic Master Plan for Northwest Pool is Regional Aquatic Center, which calls for:

- Six 50 meter lap lanes (minimum)
- Option for 25 yard lap lanes in addition to 50 meter lap lanes
- Activity pool with interactive features (such as a small slide, zero depth entry, or a sprayground)
- Concessions in a shaded area
- Diving well
- Approximate \$8 million replacement cost

Site development

The process starts with a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) that is issued to the general construction industry, including multiple swimming pool designers. The


qualifications submitted in response to the RFQ include other consultants needed to perform all of the design work necessary to design and construct a pool. According to Reynaldo Hernandez, project management supervisor for the Parks and Recreation Department, "These sub-consultants include civil engineers, pool designers, surveyors, mechanical, electrical and plumbing engineers (MEP), public engagement, cost estimators and structural engineers designers."

This part of the process takes six to nine months, after which the site design starts. Typically, the site design team will be led by architects or landscape architects. The team includes a public engagement consultant, who is responsible for conducting the public engagement process along with city officials. The site development process concludes when the Development Services Division (DSD) approves the site design. DSD in turn starts the Site Development Permit. It usually takes three rounds of comments from the DSD, to which the site design team responds. After all comments are resolved, the City issues a site development permit.

The next part of this article discusses building the new pool. Questions about this article? Send them to allandale.neighborhood@gmail.com ☞

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Recycle!

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

tion. That information has been shared with my neighborhood for over three years through its monthly newsletter in a column I write, called "Lettuce Recycle." I now have the opportunity to share recycling information with the Allandale neighborhood.

Recycling Contamination

One of the biggest problems in the area of recycling is CONTAMINATION; putting the wrong items in the blue cart is costly to the city's ratepayers, disrupts the recycling process, and causes serious safety hazards at the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), the facility where Austin's recyclables are processed. Here are the most common culprits:

- Plastic bags, whether empty or full. The bags wrap around the machinery and damage the processing equipment. All plastic bags, full or empty, that come into the recycling facility

go to the landfill.

- Pizza boxes -- because they absorb food product, they contaminate the other paper recyclables in the recycling stream. **PIZZA BOXES SHOULD GO INTO THE GREEN CURBSIDE COMPOST CAN.**
- Wet paper -- this makes the other papers in the recycling process unrecyclable. Even if the paper dries out, it is not recyclable. It should be placed in the green curbside compost can.
- Wire hangers -- these get wrapped around the sorting machinery and cause a lot of damage. Wire hangers should be taken to a dry cleaner for reuse or placed in the trash bin.
- Garden hoses - these also get wrapped around the machinery and have to be physically removed by one of the workers. The removal process is very dangerous. These need to be placed in the trash bins.

How is this Costly to Ratepayers?

The City pays the MRF (based on weight) for all material brought into the recycling facility. The MRF then sorts and processes recyclable materials and sells them. The City receives a portion of the revenue from those sales. For any contaminated items, the City doesn't receive revenue and pays a processing fee to haul them to the landfill. This cost is passed onto the ratepayer by raising solid waste fees to cover the extra expense.

Please Remember – When in Doubt, Throw it Out!

It is important for us to start at home to make sure we recycle properly. Here is a very informative City of Austin recycling website that will help us do just that: <http://www.austintexas.gov/what-do-i-do>

Just a friendly reminder – do not put plastic bags in your blue recycling bin.

If you have any questions or recycling ideas, please send them to: recycling@hpwbana.org #

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Allandale Outside: Many Allandale Farms

Faye Holland

We recently watched the documentary movie, *The Biggest Little Farm*. It is so good that our ten-year-old, twelve-year-old, and sixteen-year-old all liked it too. The cinematography is amazing. The slow motion shots and the baby animals were favorites. It speaks to having a dream and following through with perseverance and showing how everything is connected. The movie depicts what happens when a couple decides to buy, then plant and populate a truly diverse farm using traditional methods. It looks like an incredible amount of work!

It made me remember one of my purposes for my yard is to have diverse plants throughout, which helps support our super local habitat. We have so many lizards, skinks, little snakes, and geckos in our yard. We have chosen to not hire a mosquito spraying company, allowing “food” for all of the wild animals. To reduce the impact of mosquitoes, make sure to eliminate standing water on your property. Putting fans out also keeps the mosquitos away. We try to keep as much water during storm events on our property so that it has a chance to soak into the

ground. The fountain in our backyard is visited by many animals, as they use it as a water source.

I have chosen to not use chemical fertilizers and weed killers. A granulated turkey manure fertilizer for the lawn has been working well. In the spring, right before the ground warms up, spreading horticultural corn gluten around the lawn reduces the amount of weeds able to germinate. It is a lot of work to pull weeds, but not using chemicals is important. Pay attention to the weather before applying fertilizer or weed reducer. You want to keep the product on your lawn so it is not washed down the storm drains into Shoal Creek. Double strength vinegar has been useful to kill weeds growing in the seams of the driveway.

We have also been attempting to grow some food. We have five different fruit trees, four blackberry bushes, two grapevines, and lots of herbs scattered in the yard beds. Buying fresh herbs is so expensive; growing them is financially beneficial. Our raised garden beds have lots of basil, tomatoes, asparagus, and peppers, along with some zinnias, hyacinth bean,

and morning glories to bring the bees to our yard.

Now is the time to start planting a fall garden. It really is the best gardening season here in Austin. October is the month to plant arugula, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, collard greens, kohlrabi, carrot, endive, lettuce, spinach, turnips, beets, chard, garlic, and radish! There are so many choices. Most of the plants will do well through light freezes. Some plants may need to be covered during longer freezes.



Existing tomato plants don't necessarily have to be pulled out to make room for the winter veggies. Many people are able to get them to produce a fall crop once the temperature cools down in the evenings. They will produce better if you prune the canopy a bit before the weather cools. A friend gave me some calendula seeds and they really brighten up winter yards with their yellow flower heads.

We all can't (or don't want to) leave our lives and work on an ecologically diverse farm, but there are a lot of things we can do in our corner of the world that can make a healthy impact on our lives and the lives of other plants and animals around us.

The Roots and Wings butterfly and tree event is happening on Saturday, October 26, at Gullett Elementary School Park. This is a local pop-up event that supports the main event at Zilker Botanical Garden. Admission is free. It's My Park Day is November 2. Please sign up to work at Northwest Park and Gullett Park. If you sign up online in time, you will receive a free T-shirt for your efforts. It is such a fun way to meet new people and brighten up our neighborhood parks.

1. *Garden Guide for Austin and Vicinity* by Travis County Master Gardener Association 3rd Edition Spring 2007 ☼

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BUG OFF! Cockroaches

Wizzie Brown

The common cockroaches found outside include the American and Smokybrown cockroaches. American cockroaches are about 1½ - 2 inches long, reddish-brown with yellow markings above the head. The adults have well-developed wings, but seldom fly; they do often glide. American cockroaches are usually found outside near decayed trees and plants, in crawlspaces and sewers. Smokybrown cockroaches are often mistaken for American cockroaches. Smokybrowns are about one inch long and are dark brown to black. Adults have fully developed wings and are capable of flight. This species often inhabits leaf litter, compost piles and ground cover.

If you find cockroaches in your compost pile, in leaf litter, or other outdoor locations, it isn't really necessary to kill them. You may want to make sure that your house is excluded to avoid having the outdoor cockroaches move indoors when the temperatures cool down. The following tips may help:

- Prune back any vegetation touching or overhanging the home.
- If you have a brick or stone façade, stuff weep holes with copper mesh.
- Make sure screens are in good repair.
- Replace weather stripping where doorways do not have a good seal.
- Repair any water leaks.
- Clean debris from gutters.
- Place stainless steel screening over vent access in the attic.
- Use sealant around pipe penetrations or other cracks or crevices into the home.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist, at (512) 854-9600. Check out my blog at www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com

This work is supported by Crops Protection and Pest Management Competitive Grants Program [grant no. 2017-70006-27188 /project accession no. 1013905] from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

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Allandale Eating -- Doors closing, doors opening, and a dippy surprise!

Robert E. Mace, Dining from Daugherty

Daphne's closed all of its Austin locations, including their location on Anderson Lane. This closing ends the sad story of Verts becoming Noon Mediterranean becoming, for a short time, Daphne's. We were big fans of Verts' German-style doner kabobs, which the owners sadly de-emphasized after the clock struck Noon. Also closing over the past month was the East Side Pies location on Anderson Lane. East Side thankfully still has a place on Airport Boulevard, where we can order our green chile and pepperoni fave. Cruising Northcross Mall revealed that Tea Haus closed over the summer. And in a surprise announcement, Noble Sandwich Co. closed its Burnet Road brick-and-mortar on September 28, due to rising costs at that location.

In cheerier news, an Austin outlet of China's Feng Cha Teahouse opened on the west side of Northcross Mall, serving Chinese bubble teas and pastries. Tony C's out of Bee Cave announced that it plans to open a fast-casual version of its coal-fired pizza and red-sauce menu at 2900 West Anderson Lane. Tea Amo, presumably a tea place (with a clever name), is opening on the east side of Northcross Mall. Churro Co. is parking a trailer at Thunderbird Coffee on 1401 Koenig Lane, and Up N Smoke BBQ now has a trailer at the Genie Car Wash. Honest Mary's and Pho Saigon

appear to be close to opening their doors for business. Nothing seems to be happening yet for Happy Chicks' new outpost at 6425 Burnet Road.

After the Tatsu-Ya Empire opened dipdip shabu shabu (review this issue) last month, I noticed that they had curiously left one of their façade signs wrapped with brown paper like a cheap bottle of sake. I thought about jumping up and tearing it down to give a chef a hand, but then had second thoughts because (1) I'm old and (2) I desperately needed a breakfast taco. As it turns out, the cover-up was on purpose after the owners revealed a sidewalk dipdip ice cream shop!

The kudos to neighborhood spots is off the hook this issue, so I will have to pick and choose. Austin360eats gave a shout-out to T-Loc's and Top Notch as two places to eat hot dogs in Austin and Violet Crown Clubhouse as one of "7 Austin spots that are cooler than melting outside." The Austin American-Statesman, in its Best of the Best Official Choice Awards, honored Upper Crust (Bakery), Jack Allen's Kitchen (Brunch), Hopdoddy (Burger), Yard Bar (Dog-Friendly Patio), Lucy's (Fried Chicken), Amy's (Ice Cream), Whataburger (Late Night), Torchy's (Queso), Pinthouse Pizza (Brewpub), and Thundercloud Subs (Sandwich) as best in their class. Cover 3 (Bloody Mary), Sum-

mer Moon (Coffee Shop), Lick (Ice Cream), Fonda San Miguel (Mexican), Pinthouse Pizza (Pizza), Madam Mam's (Thai), and LaLa's Little Nugget (Craft Cocktails) all earned runner-up spots.

Austin Culture Map tagged Anderson Lane as North Austin's original restaurant row. Eater Austin bestowed Barley Swine as one of "9 Best Tasting Menus Around Austin;" dipdip shabu shabu as one of the "13 Hottest Restaurants in Austin, July 2019;" The Peached Tortilla as one of the "22 Happy Hours for Cheap Eats and Drinks in Austin, Summer 2019;" Top Notch, Dart Bowl Café, and Fonda San Miguel among the "23 Classic Restaurants Every Austinite Must Try;" T-Loc's as one of the "12 Solid Bets for Hotdogs;" and Cover 3, Local Post Pub, and Billy's on Burnet among the "The Best Sports Bars in Austin to Watch NFL and College Football."

Whoa BBQ

Whoa BBQ doesn't have much of a footprint on the interwebs, but after chatting with the fellow behind the counter, I learned that Whoa started several years ago at Circuit of the Americas and is now branching into Austin proper, with an Airstream in south Austin and a brick-n-mortar in the former Hey Cupcake! location on Burnet Road. In a town lousy with excellent BBQ joints, it's easy to question the why for the Whoa, but I give them props for pitching some surprises, such as a Whoa Bowl (rosemary cornbread waffle, smoked garlic mac-n-cheese, and Granny Smith apple coleslaw with your choice of chopped brisket, pulled pork, or chopped chicken; \$12) or blueberry BBQ sauce. The Whoa bowl was a filling way to sample a variety of menu offerings. On a subsequent visit, I went with a simple pulled pork sandwich (\$8) topped with the blueberry BBQ sauce where the slight sweetness of the blueberries talked down the mild sting of the jalapenos. The counter cowboy recommended the house-made, smoked Reuben sandwich for a future visit, and it was fantastic, quite possibly the best Reuben I've had, a perfect balance of rye, Texas-smoked corned beef, and sauerkraut (sub that apple slaw if you're not



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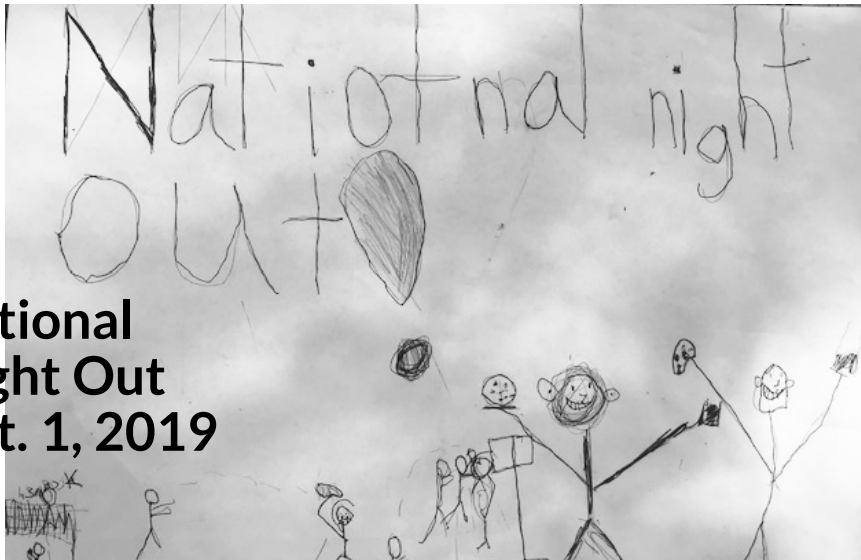
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CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



**National
Night Out
Oct. 1, 2019**



Allandale Eating -- Doors closing, doors opening, and a dippy surprise!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

feeling krauty). While Whoa won't be appearing in Texas Monthly's top 50 BBQ spots (except maybe for that Reuben...), it's what they do with the Q rather than the size of the brisket that counts.

Whoa BBQ: 5530 Burnet Road; full color review at www.austin-wanderlist.com

dipdipdip shabu shabu

One of the hardest gets in town since it opened in mid-July, dipdipdip—Japanese hot pots from the Tatsu-Ya Twins—required a broth booking 30 days in advance. As spontaneous eaters, that's a level of pre-planning that we are not accustomed to nor good at. But we made it happen, and it was worth the wait: dipdipdip delivered deliciousness in a remarkable space amidst a new (to us) experience of Japanese broth-ing.

I have to confess that I'm not a fan of hot pots, mostly from a cooties perspective. Communal boiling broths stirred with spit-festooned slop sticks just creep me the hell out. Lawd knows where my friends' mouths have been (or if that broth was recycled). So I was overjoyed to see that, contrary to tradition, you get your own damn pot of broth at dipdipdip to sully as you please.



Pulled pork sandwich with blueberry BBQ sauce at Whoa BBQ

Located next to Tacodeli at 7301 Burnet Road, Tatsu-Ya masterfully transformed a yawn-inducing strip mall location into a could-be-off-a-Toyko-alley shabu-shabu shop. The space surprisingly sheds the front windows for a dark but intimately lighted spot. Strip-mall restaurateurs take note.

Because of Tatsu-ya's popularity, there are often outside waits to get into their restaurants, so they've wisely built street bars into their recent joints, including dipdipdip. Since we arrived a few minutes early (you don't show up late to a 30-day reservation!), I ordered a Melting Pot (unaged brandy, blanco tequila, yuzu,

Oloroso sherry; \$12) and the bride, inspired by our sake-enlightening visit to Kemuri Tatsu-Ya, ordered a glass of Hoyo Genji "Shining Prince" Junmai (Uchigasaki Shuzoten, Miyagi; \$14). After a few sips and quizzical glances at the menu, staff escorted us to our table (with an all-staff call-and response as we walked in, in case you wonder what all the hootin'-n-hollerin' is all about).

Ritual is built into the tables at dipdipdip with hot plates, slots, and specialized shelving for various accoutrements. The multi-purpose, fixed-to-the-floor chair looks like something Frank Lloyd Wright designed. Waitstaff were professional, polite, and patient, asking if we had been before and then helpfully explaining the menu and process (which is, at first glance, a bit bewildering). The evening pleasantly started with warm towlettes that, when wet, expand like 4th-of-July glow worms.

Your first decision after sitting down is whether to build your own shabu shabu or go with an omakase (chef's choice) ranging from \$45 to \$95. We decided to build our own, choosing the classic Kombu Dashi broth (yamadashi kelp; \$12; she) and the Miso Smokey broth (spicy and smokey chipotle + spicy nabe [fortified chili oil, coriander, green peppercorns, & black cardamom]; \$14; me). Other choices include Ramen Tatsu-ya's Tonkitsu (50-hour pork bone broth), Tonyu Nabe (banrai soy milk & shio koji), and two additional signature dips. Our broths arrived with Koshihikari rice, citrus ponzu sauce, and an addictive sesame gomadare dip occupying the three circular spots in front of the broth. The spicy Nabe (which wasn't all that spicy) came on the side to control flavor and spice (I dumped it all in). We also received a complimentary box of veggies to kick things off.

Your next decision is to choose what to dip! We initially went with Texas Wagyu (\$13), Mugi pork loin (\$5), konnyaku (a jelly-like noodle made from potatoes; \$7), chicken meatball (\$2), grits pockets (\$4), raclette pocket (\$4), and shrimp & grits (\$4). Once everything comes, you dip! dip! dip! The interactive menu is fun and



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CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

Allandale Eating -- Doors closing, doors opening, and a dippy surprise!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

experiential as you try this and that.

Tatsu-ya broths are transcendental on a bad day, and these were no different. Comparing and contrasting different dunks with different dipping sauces was a large part of the exploratory fun. Since you control the dip, you control how long the beef (and whatnot) cooks. I particularly enjoyed the savory dumplings (which come with an hourglass timer) while the bride liked the veggies. The dumplings were chewy and flavorful while the veggies carried enough broth to taste but kept the crisp flavor of fresh greens. The konnyaku were the most unique and challenging given their texture (they looked like raviolis made out of jellyfish), but worth a try.

After ordering another round of drinks (the bride the same; I chose the Kaizen Whiskey [small batch bourbon, kokuto, bergamot, bitters; \$12]), a tall cart arrived with additional, non-menu items. After a tour le carte, we ordered two oysters (\$6), a plate of raw mushrooms (\$6), and

ramen (\$5) and curry (\$5) noodles. Despite the recommendation to eat them raw, we quick-dipped our oysters (delicious!). The curry noodles were spectacular, providing enough curry flavor to compete with the broth. Truth be told, we didn't need to order anything from the cart, but with the sake in control at this point (and not wanting to miss anything), we partook. We would have declined dessert, but it came with the meal and was thankfully light: a perfect watermelon sorbet.

Dipdipdip is not a drop-in-and-get-a-meal kinda place, both functionally and, depending on your socioeconomic status, financially. It's only open in the evenings, thus avoiding a parkapocalypse with the Tacodeli lunch crowd and affording the time required to enjoy the meal and menu. With dipdipdip, Tatsu-ya has another hit on their hands. Just keep your grimy hands away from my shabu shabu.



dipdipdip shabu shabu

Dipdipdip shabu shabu: 7301 Burnet Road, (512) 893-5561, www.dipdipdip-tatsuya.com, full color review at www.austintwonderlist.com ☿

Greetings from Your Neighbor, TSBVI

Emily Coleman, Superintendent, TSBVI

You may have observed the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired while driving down 45th Street or Burnet Road. Perhaps you noticed the recent remodel of our over 100-year-old campus, which highlights the positive support we receive from our state. I must also say that what you see on the outside is not nearly as impressive as what happens on the inside. I came to TSBVI in 2018, and I'm awestruck daily by the expertise of staff, the positive culture, and the intense focus on our mission to improve educational outcomes for our students.

TSBVI has an array of programs that serve the almost 11,000 students identified as blind, visually impaired, and deaf-blind throughout Texas. We offer programming in Austin that includes transportation home on weekends across

Texas, so students can see their families and stay engaged in their communities. We offer courses that may only last a few days or a week to focus on very specific skills. We also provide support in the form of online courses, consultations, publications, and in-person trainings throughout Texas, addressing the needs of students that may never set foot in Austin. Family education and engagement is also at the heart of what we do.

The field of blindness education is focused on creating opportunities for independence and giving space for students to find and prepare for meaningful and successful post-school opportunities, while at the same time working within and alongside communities to debunk negative perceptions of blindness as we engage with new individuals and they see the success of our students. If you're

intrigued by our work, I encourage you to reach out and learn more. We have and host a lot of great events; for example, White Cane Day on October 16, which is an annual tradition.

I moved to Austin from Washington State one year ago, and only recently became superintendent. As a transplant, I've been studying hard to get up to speed on TSBVI and the State of Texas. In an effort to share my learning with a larger audience, I worked with our Outreach team to create a podcast called "A Sense of Texas." If you'd like to learn more about our work or the population we serve, I recommend you take a listen. You can also visit our website, tsbvi.edu, to find out more about us and our upcoming community events.

See you around the neighborhood! ☿

Gullett Good News: Come With Me to the Gullett Elementary Carnival

Gwynne Ellen Ash



Gullett Carnival

Did you know that the word carnival comes from the Latin terms carn (meat or flesh) and levare (to put away)? Historically, the carnival was the farewell to meat before the traditional Lenten fast. But at Gullett, we will hold our carnival before the Thanksgiving feast, November 2 to be exact, from 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

At the Gullett Carnival, our yearly "fun-raiser," we celebrate our magical Gullett community with rides, games, prizes, fun, food, and drinks. Come pet the animals in the petting zoo. Keep cool by getting wet at Soak-a-Gecko (or watch others get wet in the dunking booth). Run the obstacle course or get a temporary tattoo or a face painting. Win a can of Pringles at the Pringle toss and much, much more. Bring your own water bottle and cash for food. Gullett Carnival wristbands are available online: <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/carnival-wristbands-2019> Come enjoy good old-fashioned carnival fun to support our school!

It's My Park Day

November 2 is also It's My Park Day. Did you know that the grounds at Gullett are also a City of Austin park? Outside of school hours (7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) it's available to all Austinites. Join us from 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. to clean up the Gullett grounds as part of Austin Parks and Recreation's It's My Park Day. For more information and to register to volunteer, see <https://austinparks.org/impd/>

Principal's Update

Last year, Gullett Elementary became a Monarch Heroes Certified Backyard Habitat. We added many plants to attract butterflies, and a hatchery, as well. Over the summer we were able to update our small playground for our three- to five-year-old students. We now have more play options, and it's more accessible for everyone. We're also working on developing a community garden, and would love more volunteers! We love being part of the Allandale community. If you ever have any questions or concerns about Gullett Elementary, please email me, Principal Brown, at tisha.brown@aus-tinisd.org.

Campus Advisory Council

Please consider joining the Gullett Elementary Campus Advisory Council, which is made up of parents, business and community representatives, teachers, principals, and other campus staff. Every AISD campus is required to have a Campus Advisory Committee (CAC) to promote excellence in education for all students through broad-based representation. CACs provide valuable input to principals. The group meets on the last Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is October 30 at 3:10 p.m. in the Gullett library. Members must apply. See www.gullett-geckos.com/cac for more information.

A special thank you to the ANA for making a donation to Gullett's enrichment/supply fund to support families in need, by providing full or partial activity fees and/or purchase needed school supplies. Your generous donation is much appreciated!

Thank you for supporting Gullett Elementary, our school in the heart of Allandale!

Important Dates for Geckos

Campus Advisory Council, Wednesday, October 30, 3:10 p.m.

It's My Park Day, Saturday, November 2, 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Gullett Carnival, Saturday, November 2, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Thanksgiving holiday, November 25 - 29
Winter Break begins, Thursday, December 19 ☸

All About Lamar

Rick Schumacher



Hello Scotties! It is so great to see everyone finding their groove this year at Lamar. As the parent of a sixth-grader, the beginning of the year has been a festival of change and growth. I bet my daughter is facing change, too.

But really, I spent some time recently discussing the hero's journey with some great friends and thought about my own journey through school, how change was a constant and my emotional growth and maturity was expanded over the arc of that continual change. Part of the hero's journey is having to face trials and growing as a result. Looking at the varying catalysts of change for my girl is equal parts frightening and invigorating, because I know those trials can be powerful. These are intense times for them as well as for those folks who support them. I don't believe that it would be hyperbolic to write that all these kids are on heroes' journeys right now. Though, I think it is a good idea to remember to lean on each other and get plenty of exercise. Alas, journeys can be exhausting; get some yoga in, if you can.

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All About Lamar

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Speaking of exercise, why not have your Scottie get into Ultimate Frisbee at Lamar. Generally, speaking, Ultimate Frisbee is played somewhat like golf, but different. It's all about getting your disk (Frisbee) into the basket. It sounds difficult and it is, but also very rewarding. Get in touch with Suzanne Lacy (Suzanne.lacy@austinsd.org) for questions, and sign up at <https://austinultimate.org/e/youth-fall-league-2019>. The fee is \$35 and includes a disk. It really looks like a lot of fun. Other ways to get some exercise might be to do some laps around the great track at Lamar. Just remember to follow the signs posted regarding open times and prohibited uses. I would hate for my advice to end up with you on the wrong side of our fine AISD police.

As mentioned above, we need to lean on each other for support. That goes for our wonderful Lamar teachers and staff as well. Luckily, there is a program for that. Be a "Secret Pal to a Lamar Staff Member." It looks like there are a few spots left that need our support. To get connected,

contact Sue Atkinson (sueatkinson49@gmail.com) or Amy Hoffman (amyjhoffman@hotmail.com). This is a great way to support Lamar that does not take a whole lot of time or resources.

Now to something that is a personal pet peeve of mine: the drop-off lane. According to safekids.org, there are approximately 250,000 children injured yearly in pedestrian vehicle injuries in school zones. When she was just a little girl, my niece, thankfully now a student at McCallum, was hit by a car in a school zone with enough force to knock her right out of her shoes. The statistics are terrible, as was my sister's voice when she called me saying that she was on the way to the hospital. But we can do something about it. I have noticed several people parking in the drop-off lane and either sitting in their vehicle looking at their phones, or simply getting out and heading inside. This is no good, friends. What this does is make people weave in and out of the lane to drop off their kids or even just double-park and let them out. Couple that with the kids who are dropped off on the other side of the street and who must cross over mid-block, dodging weaving vehicles and looking

around stopped SUVs, and there is an increased probability of injury.

We can do a lot to mitigate that risk of injury: 1) do not loiter or park in the drop-off lane. 2) Do not drop off kids on the southbound side of Wynona. 3) Tell your kids to refrain from using their cell-phones while walking in the school zone. 4) Stay alert, save a life.

Have a great holiday season, and good luck to all of our Scotties as they run up to the end of the first half of the year. ☼

It's Knight Time - McCallum Updates

Kristin Knifton

Fall is in full swing at McCallum, even if the weather isn't quite cooperating. Our interim principal, Brandi Hosack, has been hard at work for a couple of months, so this seems like a good time to get to know her a little better!

Mrs. Hosack grew up in Athens, a small



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MEDIAN \$/SQ FT	\$290	\$297	\$317
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All YTD data is pulled from Austin MLS for single family residence as of January 1st - December 30th.

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town in east Texas, and graduated from Athens High School in 1997. During high school, she was a varsity athlete, with softball eventually creating her road to college. Her time as a college softball player resulted in her desire to become a teacher and a coach. Mrs. Hosack earned her Bachelor of Science from Texas A&M University, and got her first job in Austin ISD teaching biology and coaching softball. She also taught and coached at Samuel Clemens High School in Schertz, TX. In 2011, Mrs. Hosack began her first administrative experience as an assistant principal at Akins High School, and completed her Master of Education from The University of Texas in 2012. Mrs. Hosack was promoted to Academy Director and eventually to principal of Akins in 2015, where she spent four additional years. After a year (2018-19) as the principal of North Forney High School near the Dallas area, Mrs. Hosack moved back to Austin to assume the role of interim principal at McCallum High School. She is incredibly excited to be a Knight! Mrs. Hosack is married with three young boys who, happily, consume all of her free time!

She will begin sending out a principal's newsletter at the beginning of each month that will be accessible on our website and on Twitter. You may follow her on twitter: @MrsHosack

It's already time to start thinking about next school year! Students who are zoned to McCallum may choose to attend as a general student, or may audition to be in the Fine Arts Academy (as can students outside of the attendance zone). Academic classes are the same, regardless of academy status. Although many fine arts classes are open to all students, being a part of the Fine Arts Academy (FAA) means access to an accelerated arts curriculum, specialized

training, and performance opportunities. Academy campus tours for prospective students are taking place on several dates (October 15, 23, 25 and November 1, 6, 12, 13 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.). Registration is required -- please contact the Fine Arts Academy office to register. There will also be a seminar on November 20 from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. to learn about the FAA application process and a workshop on December 14 from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. to learn more about preparing to audition or submit a portfolio. Registration is required for the workshop.

The class of 2020 is currently fundraising for Project Graduation. This is a program that promotes alcohol and drug awareness and safety by holding a safe all-night celebration after graduation. They are seeking monetary donations from individuals and businesses, at <https://macgradwebsite.wixsite.com/redesign>. There will also be a mattress sale fundraiser on February 1 from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. in the McCallum cafeteria. If you need a new mattress, please consider purchasing one at this event!

Calling all princes and princesses! Fans are invited to the fourth annual Princess Tea Party hosted by MacTheatre students. Your favorite princesses and princes will perform, sign autographs and take pictures with attendees. Tea party snacks and drinks will be provided. Guests are invited to attend in their Halloween or favorite dress-up costume.

Join us on Saturday, October 26 at 2:00 p.m. in the McCallum High School Cafeteria at 5600 Sunshine Dr. The price is \$10 per child and \$5 for accompanying adults; additional donations are graciously accepted as well. This is a fun event for all ages, but it is aimed at kids 10 and under. Tickets can be purchased at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/princess-tea-party->

2019-tickets-74304325237?fbclid=IwAR27TLKivKa-0mbhIpEQeGcW7yz8Nws3wXR4xh_Zwu8HJWwgrFH451Sucqg

Other Important Dates Upcoming:

October 18 – football @ Seguin
 October 19-20 Fall Faculty Directed Dance Concert 7:00 p.m.
 October 25 – football versus Reagan
 October 26 – Princess Tea Party 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.
 October 29 Academy Showcase for Prospective Families, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
 October 31 – football versus Crockett
 November 4 – CAC 5:30 and PTSA 6:30 p.m.
 November 7 – football versus Travis
 November 14-17 – Murder on the Orient Express (fall play)
 November 15-17 Choir Cabaret
 November 20 – Academy Application Process Knight 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
 November 22 – Principal's coffee 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
 November 25-29 Thanksgiving holiday
 December 2 - CAC 5:30 p.m. and PTSA 6:30 p.m.
 December 5 – Benefit shopping night for MACares at Ten Thousand Villages 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
 December 5 – McCallum/Lamar classical guitar concert, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
 December 9 – band holiday concert, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
 December 10 – orchestra holiday concert 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.
 December 12 – classical guitar concert
 December 14 – Academy workshop day (registration required) 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
 December 20 – January 6 – winter break for students

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It's Knight Time – McCallum Updates

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

As always, to get more frequent updates about MAC happenings, you may check the website (mccallumhs.com), the award-winning Mac Journalism online at macshieldonline.com, or follow Mac Journalism on Instagram.

For sports events, go to: <https://mccallumhs.com/events-calendars/>

For Fine Arts Academy events, go to: <https://mccallumhs.com/fine-arts-academy/>. ☼

More Mac - It's SAVAGE SEASON at MacTheatre

Sabrina Wallace

From the world's most famous chemical imbalance to Agatha Christie to decadent, depraved Berlin and Frank Kafka's puppet mouse play, this is a season of nonstop SAVAGERY.

Coming Up on our Stages: *Murder on the Orient Express*

November 14 - 17, 2019

McCallum Fine Arts Theatre Building
5600 Sunshine Drive, Austin, TX

Agatha Christie's *Murder on the Orient Express* is a plot-twist masterpiece that has thrilled mystery lovers from television, radio, and film, and now audiences have the chance to experience this lush mystery live onstage. Playwright Ken Ludwig (*Moon Over Buffalo*) adapts the classic thriller that features renowned detective Hercule Poirot and a cast of characters sure to have everyone in the audience guessing just who did it. Don't miss your shot at being at the scene of this masterpiece crime. Duration: 2 hours, 25 minutes. Rated: Ages 12 and up.

- Tickets may be purchased in advance at <https://mccallum.ludustickets.com/>
- Student tickets are \$7; adults are \$16, and seniors are \$12. Add \$2 for tickets purchased at the door, except at the student rate.
- Group rates for groups of 10 or more

receive a 10% discount when purchasing tickets online.

- All shows start at 7:00 p.m., except Sunday shows. Visit www.mactheatre.com for details.
- Shows are recommended for audiences of all ages, unless otherwise specified. ☼

Even More Mac – Fall Dance Concert, October 19 - 20

Sabrina Wallace

McCallum Youth Dance Company presents Fall Concert, Elemental

October 19 - 20 McCallum Fine Arts Theatre Building
5600 Sunshine Drive, Austin, TX

McCallum Youth Dance Company presents its annual fall concert, *ELEMENTAL*. The concert will feature approximately 40 dancers performing in both teacher- and student-choreographed

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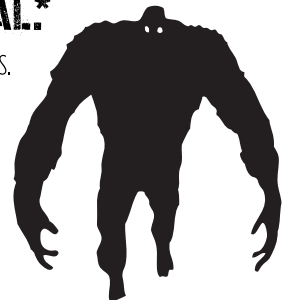
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works in various styles of contemporary dance.

Artistic Directors Rachel Murray and Natalie Uehara noted that the student choreographers for this concert were inspired by the works of Mary Wigman, Tricia Brown, Doris Humphrey, Loie Fuller, Alvin Ailey, Ohad Naharin, as well as their own teachers.

This year's theme, **ELEMENTAL**, explores the way dance allows us to express ourselves and our experiences of life and the world. The visceral immediacy of dance in performance helps both the performer and audience to feel more whole and integrated, both emotionally and socially. "There are words, and then there is movement. Expressive movement can be a way to 'speak' and 'listen' to others in a safe way, and where diverse experiences and opinions can be shared and supported," Murray explained.

- Venue: McCallum Arts Center, 5600 Sunshine Drive, Austin, TX 78756
- Performance dates: Saturday, October 19 at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, October 20 at 2:30 p.m.
- For tickets, visit <https://mkt.com/MACDANCEDREAMS> - Advance purchase recommended. Tickets will also be available at the door.
- Tickets start at \$7 (Students), \$12 Adults, and \$10 Seniors

About the Company:

The McCallum Youth Dance Company is one of many programs at McCallum's Fine Arts Academy, which was named as the 2015 National GRAMMY Signature School. As Austin ISD's district-wide fine arts intensive high school program, the Fine Arts Academy at McCallum High School provides an exemplary arts education program for 9th - 12th grade students to pursue an accelerated arts curriculum as fine arts majors. For information on being a dance major at McCallum, visit <https://mccallumhs.com/fine-arts-academy/> ☼



recycling
is good

Neighborhood Watch

Laura DiCarlo, ANA Safety Chair, lhdicarlo@yahoo.com



I have thoroughly enjoyed being the Allandale Neighborhood Association Safety Chair for the last 11 years, but due to a new job that will keep me extremely busy, I have had to step down.

I will still use the Austin 311 app to report graffiti when I can, and my street is still planning to have National Night Out parties every year, but I will no longer be the ANA Safety Chair.

I have detailed below the things I have done in the position, and it would be wonderful if anyone is interested in taking over one or more aspect/s. Please email me at lhdicarlo@yahoo.com if you have questions or are interested. The things I have done are only suggestions – someone new could add or take away

anything, as I've just decided what to do and there was no protocol before I came.

Even if we don't end up with a new Safety Chair for a while, the most important things are that folks lock their car and house doors, hide valuables, look out for suspicious behavior, get to know their neighbors, use motion lights, and communicate with each other when break-ins or other crimes occur.

Allandale is a safe and thriving community, and I feel lucky to live here. :)

Our APD District Representative is:
Officer Doug Ellis
douglas.ellis@austintexas.gov
(512)974- 5736 ☼

The ANA Safety Chair:

1. Submits a monthly report to the ANA Executive Committee listing actions of the Safety Committee, crime stats found on krimelabb.com, and neighborhood issues/discussions related to safety found on the Allandale listserve and Nextdoor
2. Reports graffiti in Allandale using the 311 app and abates when possible
3. Trains new block captains when someone volunteers
4. Has in the past coordinated neighborhood patrols
5. Attends APD Baker Sector Community Engagement Meetings
6. Communicates with our APD District Rep (DR) Officer Ellis and others, such as ATD and Leslie Pool's office, regarding safety issues (often due to requests from residents)
7. Shares crime information/things to be aware of on the Allandale listserve and with block captains via their Google group
8. Does the TAKE10 Compression Only CPR training in February (I'm happy to help with this, but it would be great if someone else can get the date approved with the board, reserve the room at the Rec Center, and check out the kit from the Office of the Medical Director. ☼

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or 512-348-8237.

CodeNEXT is BACK and it is BAD

Allan McMurtry

The City Council's work sessions gave us new information about what neighborhoods might see from CodeNext V-4, to be released on October 4.

The new "Transition Zones," areas in neighborhoods close to corridors and centers where zoning is changing from single-family to multi-family, may, at Staff's discretion, be deeper and taller and denser than we previously understood.

We now understand this about Transition Zones:

1. They may extend 850 feet (depending on block configuration, that can be 15 lots) into neighborhoods. Previously, the depth would "generally" be five lots.
2. The multi-family structures may be four stories tall -- 45 feet in height. Previously, they would be residential house-scale.
3. The impervious cover limits will be increased on lots beyond 50%.
4. The permitted bulk of the buildings -- the ratio of the size of the building to the size of the lot -- is being increased.
5. The number of units on a lot can be as many as 8-10 units, up from four units.
6. Homeowners in Transition Zones do not receive the protection of compatibility requirements for new development in the Transition Zone. We had thought that waiver only applied to new development on corridors.
7. The new multi-family developments may not be required to provide parking. How much parking will be required, if any, may vary by neighborhood.
8. If a homeowner or purchaser demolishes a single-family home, it must be replaced with multi-family housing. (See Community Impact Sept 24, page 19.)
9. Homeowners and residents will not be given the standard notice, hearing, and protest rights that would apply to a zoning case -- not even for their property. This approach will facilitate and expedite the Council's intention to remake single-family neighborhoods, and will make it harder for residents to be heard and invoke their rights.

Note: We also learned that in neighborhood areas that are outside of Transition Zones, it would be possible to add two additional units to a lot with an existing home. Currently, in Allandale no units (e.g. garage apartments) can be added.

Remember also that in the portions of neighborhoods not in Transition Zones, developers can file zoning applications that, if granted, would extend multi-family use. The Transition Zones will create a new precedent for redevelopment.

We do not yet know precisely what the Staff and Council will do with our neighborhood, but we do know that it will be their vision, not our vision formed over 75 years. The sacrifice of our neighborhood to land speculation through mass rezoning is not inevitable. We can stop it. We do that by standing together demanding real solutions to housing challenges and a real say in the future of our homes, our schools, and our neighborhood. Be advised that the Council plans to move very quickly.

If you want to understand the origins and implications of what the City Council is preparing to do, please watch the short (29 minutes) documentary film, Zoned Out -- the Legacy of CodeNEXT, by acclaimed filmmaker Steve Mims at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qsYOurWEoSc&feature=youtu.be> ☼

JOIN ANA

Household membership is \$20/year with a price break for seniors. Visit our website to renew or get status sorted. allandaleneighbor.com

Allandale Candy Canes – time to order

Adam P. Haynes

The weather may not indicate such, but the holidays are just around the corner. Now is the time to think about how you will decorate your home for the festivities. Fortunately, Troop 49 has a deal for you. Allandale Candy Canes will be available again this year for purchase from Troop 49. There is a limited supply, so order yours quickly.



These hand-made, one-of-a-kind decorations are a staple in the 'hood. Troop 49 has revived making the traditional candy canes, which once populated most yards during the holidays. Originally, homebuilders left the candy canes for buyers who purchased new homes. They are made from stovepipe, painted, and striped with ribbon. Each one is over five feet tall and makes the perfect yard decoration. Rumor has it there will be a holiday decoration contest in Allandale this year, and a traditional candy cane will certainly be the centerpiece of a winning yard.

Check out <https://www.austintroop49.org> for details on how to order yours today. ☼

Highland Village Church of Christ

hvhchurchofchrist.org
4716 Bull Creek Road, Austin TX 78731
512-453-4120

Sunday Schedule
Bible Classes 9:30 am
AM Worship Service 10:30 am
PM Worship Service 6:00 pm

Wednesday Schedule
Bible Classes 7:00 pm

Listen to our lessons on our website!



Treasured Historic Site in Allandale~ Update

Paulette Kern

What a wonderful workday at the Davis Family Cemetery September 7 was! The old saying "many hands make light work" was certainly evident as 18-20 volunteer Allandale neighbors, including ten girls from Troop 2019, participated that morning. They came, they worked up a good sweat, they halted progression of invasive Ligustrum and a patch of bamboo, cleared dead limbs, and began pulling invasive vines. One can actually see most of the headstones now. Stop by and take a look on your next walk down Vine Street between Twin Oaks Drive and Cavileer Avenue.

Many thanks to all these hands! The transformation is impressive. And special thanks to neighbor Bart Sherman and Allandale Lawn & Landscape, who gifted the mowing of the cemetery the day before our workday, and to Austin Parks Foundation, which loaned us wonderful tools and arranged for brush pick-up. You are all AWESOME to show care of and pride in our neighborhood in this way!

There is still bamboo to chop and a section or two of Ligustrum and more vines to remove. While I will keep after it in the interim, the next official workday is Saturday, November 16, 8:00 a.m. – noon. For questions or interest, contact me at: paulettekern@sbcglobal.net ☼

Letters to the Editor:

We'd love for readers to submit newsletter ideas, stories, and reactions to articles.

allandaleneighbor@gmail.com

Allandale Real Estate Roundup

Debbie Trominski, REALTOR, Broker Associate

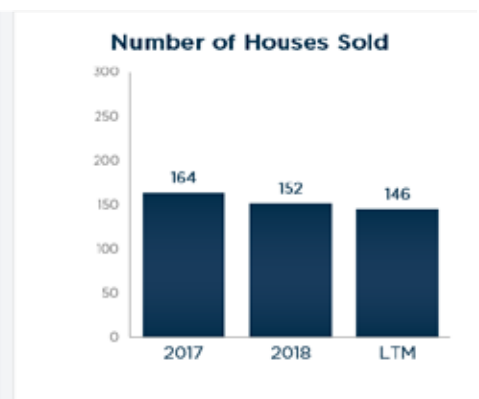
Holy cow, we did it! More specifically, my daughter did it; she has started her freshman year at McCallum. It seems like a flash, but we moved to Allandale 14 years ago from east Austin, before she learned to walk, because we wanted her to attend Gullett for her elementary school years. Gullett is a sweet memory in the rear-view mirror, and now Lamar is too, for this kid. When we came to Allandale, another important reason was to grow our family -- which we did within our first year of living here, with our second daughter, who's currently at Lamar. Back then it wasn't possible to fathom sending our babies to middle school or high school, so it's been a pure delight to have landed in a neighborhood where all the schools are superb and so close by. For my girls, an extra bonus is that both Lamar and McCallum are Fine Arts Academies, since they inherited artistic and engineering talent from their architect dad. While Allandale has been a huge aspect of providing a great childhood experience for my kids, it's also been doing wonders for Mom and Dad. As Austin has grown and our idyllic neighborhood has found itself even more ideal-

ly located, perfectly sandwiched between downtown and the Domain, our property values have done very well. Even while we were here during the 2008 downturn, Allandale held its own. I mean, large lots, charming mid-century architecture, bike lanes, an enormous park and pool, heritage trees, and great schools. Nothing is missing. We even have the best selection of tacos and Mexican food surrounding us on three sides. The proof is in the real estate market stats.

According to data from the Austin Board of Realtors, Allandale home prices averaged out at \$651,509 over the last 12 months. That's up from \$638,635 in 2018 and from \$623,690 in 2017.

Meanwhile, the average number of days homes were on the market over the last 12 months is 34, an increase from 32 days in 2018, and a decline from 36 days in 2017.

The number of homes sold dropped from 152 in 2018 to 146 in the past 12 months. The number of closed sales was down 8% in August 2019 compared to August 2018. This can be attributed to less available inventory. ☼



Austin Speech Labs hosting Annual Health Fair Monday, October 29, to mark International World Stroke Day

Kate Windsor

In 2006, current Allandale resident Casey Gwinn worked at his local brewery in Farmington, New Mexico. When Casey responded to a coworker's question, he was met by confusion. Casey repeated himself, but his coworker only gave him a strange look and immediately went to seek help. "I just didn't understand why everyone was running around. I thought my response was totally normal, but apparently I wasn't making any sense at all." At the age of 34 and with no prior health issues, stroke wasn't even on his radar. Casey experienced no symptoms or signs of stroke leading up to the event. With no warning, he had simply lost access to his language and was unable to get the right words out. Luckily, one of his coworkers was a former army EMT and knew the signs of stroke. He forced Casey to sit down and called 911 immediately. That quick action saved Casey's life.

For the next year, Casey attended therapy at St. David's Medical Center here in Austin, where he met and worked with Shilpa and Shelley. Initially, he couldn't talk; he was in a wheelchair, had no use of his right arm, and had very little comprehension of words. Casey started to improve, but he was sent back to New Mexico after only a year. "Sending Casey

home felt like a kick in the gut," Shelley Adair said, "I knew he had potential, he was young, he was motivated, he was making progress, but the current medical system didn't allow for the time it would take for him to get better."

Casey inspired Shilpa Shamapant and Shelley Adair to start Austin Speech Labs in 2008, when they brought him back to Austin, and they have been working with him ever since.

Today, Casey lives independently. He is working part time at REI, he drives, rides his bike, and continues to participate in therapy at Austin Speech Labs. Austin Speech Labs is a local non-profit right here in the neighborhood that helps stroke survivors continue to recover their words, long after their insurance runs out. Shilpa and Shelley's goal is for every patient to get the therapy they need for the duration they need, in order to achieve the highest possible level of independence. Austin Speech Labs also serves as a training center for medical and nursing students from Dell Medical School and The University of Texas, as well as speech pathology students from all over the United States.

In recognition of International World



Stroke Day, Austin Speech Labs invites you to join us for our third annual health fair on Monday, October 29 from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. The event will include free health screenings for BMI, blood pressure, blood glucose, cholesterol, and vision and hearing, provided by UT Project Collaborate, Central Texas Hearing Center, and the Optometry Center for Vision Therapy. Enjoy live music and visit over 25 health and wellness vendors from the Austin area. There will be a raffle and a cookout presented by Austin Speech Labs stroke survivors, including local chef Zack Northcutt.

Help us promote stroke awareness and prevention in the Austin community, so that others like Casey can get to the hospital FAST and get the treatment they need to regain their independence.

The event is sponsored by Capital Investment Advisors Si Shou Acupuncture and Wellness Senior Resource Guide Austin Muscle Restoration and many more. ☘




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Join us! Northwest Recreation Center 2913 Northland Drive

Allandale Neighborhood Association New or Renewal Membership. Celebrate Allandale: Love It. Protect It.

All residents within Allandale's boundaries are welcome to join the Allandale Neighborhood Association. Annual dues are \$20 per household or \$10 (over age 55 household). Membership runs January-December. Dues may be paid in advance for multiple years.

Name _____

Address _____

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Membership rates: ☐ \$20 dues per household ☐ \$10 dues per age 55+ household

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Please make checks payable to: ANA ■ PO Box 10886 ■ Austin, TX 78766-1886 ■

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I am willing to serve on the following committees: ☐ Bylaws ☐ Communications ☐ Finance ☐ Membership
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